

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT O 02493 282050Z
ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 AID-05 OIC-02 /026 W
-----128686 290544Z /10
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FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2875

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT OF SPAIN 02493

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EFIN, TD
SUBJECT: IMF/WORLD BANK ANNUAL MEETING

REF: STATE 203590

1. VICTOR BRUCE, GOVERNOR OF THE CENTRAL BANK, CONFIRMS THAT HE WILL ATTEND THIS JOINT SESSION. OTHER MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION NOT YET APPOINTED.

2. FROM A CONVERSATION WE HAD LAST WEEK WITH FRANK BARSOTTI, MINFIN PERMSEC, IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THE CABINET HAS NOT YET TAKEN UP EITHER THE MATTER OF PARTICIPANTS OR OF POLICY OBJECTIVES. SIMILARLY, BARSOTTI OFFERED NOTHING THAT SUGGESTS THAT AN EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO RAISE ISSUES WITH US BILATERALLY. WE FRANKLY DOUBT THAT THE GOTT WILL PURSUE ANY SIGNIFICANT INITIATIVES AT THE FUND/BANK MEETINGS OR WITH ANYONE IN THE USG. IF WE ELICIT ANYTHING TO THE CONTRARY PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE SESSIONS, WE WILL ADVISE ALONG WITH NAMES OF OTHER MEMBERS OF THE GOTT DELEGATION.

3. PRESENCE OF BRUCE IN WASHINGTON, HOWEVER, PROVIDES A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE ANOTHER EFFORT TO GET THE GOTT ON BOARD WITH RESPECT TO OUR CARIBBEAN ASSISTANCE/DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY. BRUCE, AS THE DEPARTMENT KNOWS, HEADS T&T'S BILATERAL AID PROGRAM. WHILE THE FACT REMAINS THAT GOTT
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CARIBBEAN POLICY (LIKE ALL GOTT POLICY) IS ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY A FUNCTION OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S ATTITUDES AND GOALS, THERE EXISTS A POSSIBILITY OF INFLUENCING EVENTS HERE IF PEOPLE LIKE BRUCE FULLY APPRECIATE OUR POSITION AND HEAR IT FROM MANY SOURCES. AT PRESENT HE "UNDERSTANDS" THE RATIONALE FOR THE GROUP AND FACILITY BUT APPARENTLY IS UNINCLINED TO SUGGEST TO HIGHER AUTHORITY THAT IT WOULD BE

IN T&T'S INTEREST TO COOPERATE MORE MEANINGFULLY.
O'MAHONY

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Message Attributes

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